

SB 94-2
(LC 1217)
3/7/25 (HE/ps)

Requested by Senator WEBER

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO
SENATE BILL 94**

1 On page 1 of the printed bill, line 2, after “limits;” insert “creating new
2 provisions; and”.

3 Delete lines 4 through 30 and delete page 2 and insert:

4 **“SECTION 1.** ORS 818.030 is amended to read:

5 “818.030. This section establishes exemptions from the maximum weight
6 limitations under ORS 818.010 and 818.020. The exemptions under this section
7 are in addition to any exemptions under ORS 801.026. Operation in accord-
8 ance with one of the exemptions described is not subject to the penalties in
9 ORS 818.020. Exemptions are partial or complete as described in the follow-
10 ing:

11 “(1) The maximum weight limitations do not apply on any way,
12 thoroughfare or place owned by a district formed under ORS chapters 545,
13 547 and 551 or a corporation formed under ORS chapter 554.

14 “(2) The maximum weight limitations do not apply on any road or
15 thoroughfare or property in private ownership or any road or thoroughfare,
16 other than a state highway or county road, used pursuant to any agreement
17 with any agency of the United States or with a licensee of such agency, or
18 both.

19 “(3) The maximum weight limitations do not apply to any vehicle, com-
20 bination of vehicles, article, machine or other equipment while being used
21 by the federal government, the State of Oregon or any county or incorpo-

1 rated city in the construction, maintenance or repair of public highways and
2 at the immediate location or site of such construction, maintenance or re-
3 pair.

4 “(4) The maximum weight limitations do not apply to vehicles while being
5 used on the roads of a road authority by mass transit districts for the pur-
6 poses authorized under ORS 267.010 to 267.394, provided the weight of the
7 vehicles is approved by the road authority for the roads.

8 “(5) Subject to the maximum weight limitations under Tables I and III
9 of ORS 818.010, any vehicle with a single rear axle specially equipped with
10 a self-compactor and used exclusively for garbage or refuse operations may
11 have a loaded weight upon a single axle of not more than 22,000 pounds when
12 laden with garbage or refuse. When unladen or when operating on any
13 highway that is part of the federal interstate highway system such vehicles
14 shall comply with the weight limitations under Table II of ORS 818.010.

15 “(6) Weight limitations are not applicable in any place and to the extent
16 the weight limitations are modified by a road authority under ORS 810.060.
17 The exemption under this subsection is subject to the limitations imposed
18 by the road authority exercising the powers granted under ORS 810.060.

19 “(7) Operations authorized to exceed weight limitations by a variance
20 permit issued under ORS 818.200 are subject to the terms of the permit. It
21 shall be a defense to any charge of violation of ORS 818.020 if the person so
22 charged produces a variance permit issued under ORS 818.200 authorizing the
23 operation of the vehicle or combination of vehicles issued prior to and valid
24 at the time of the offense.

25 “(8)(a) Notwithstanding Table III of ORS 818.010, two consecutive sets of
26 tandem axles may have a loaded weight of 34,000 pounds each when operat-
27 ing on interstate highways with a permit and on other highways without a
28 permit, providing the distance between the first and last axles of the two sets
29 of tandem axles is at least 30 feet but less than 36 feet.

30 “(b) Notwithstanding Table III of ORS 818.010, two consecutive sets of

1 tandem axles may have a loaded weight of 34,000 pounds each when operat-
2 ing on any highway if the overall distance between the first and the last
3 axles of the sets of tandem axles is 36 feet or more.

4 “(9) Notwithstanding Table III of ORS 818.010, a group of four axles
5 consisting of a set of tandem axles and two axles spaced nine feet or more
6 apart may have a loaded weight of more than 65,500 pounds and up to 70,000
7 pounds when operating on interstate highways with a permit and on other
8 highways without a permit, providing the distance between the first and last
9 axles of the group is 35 feet or more.

10 “(10) The maximum weight limitations do not apply to a vehicle equipped
11 with a fully functional idle reduction system designed to reduce fuel use and
12 emissions from engine idling. The vehicle may exceed the weight limitations
13 established under ORS 818.010 by not more than 550 pounds.

14 “(11) The maximum weight limitations do not apply to a vehicle that uses
15 natural gas as its fuel source or a vehicle powered primarily by means of an
16 electric battery. The vehicle may exceed the weight limitations established
17 under ORS 818.010 by not more than 2,000 pounds.

18 **“(12) A vehicle carrying fluid milk products may have a loaded
19 weight of not more than 129,000 pounds. This subsection applies to
20 vehicles:**

21 **“(a) That transport fluid milk products to or from a farm, milk
22 plant, receiving station or transfer station;**

23 **“(b) That have a double trailer length of 85 feet or less;**

24 **“(c) That do not exceed the limits on the maximum allowable
25 weight prescribed in ORS 818.010; and**

26 **“(d) That travel on the pilot project routes prescribed by the de-
27 partment by rule under section 5 of this 2025 Act.**

28 **“SECTION 2.** ORS 818.030, as amended by section 1 of this 2025 Act, is
29 amended to read:

30 “818.030. This section establishes exemptions from the maximum weight

1 limitations under ORS 818.010 and 818.020. The exemptions under this section
2 are in addition to any exemptions under ORS 801.026. Operation in accord-
3 ance with one of the exemptions described is not subject to the penalties in
4 ORS 818.020. Exemptions are partial or complete as described in the follow-
5 ing:

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7 thoroughfare or place owned by a district formed under ORS chapters 545,
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10 thoroughfare or property in private ownership or any road or thoroughfare,
11 other than a state highway or county road, used pursuant to any agreement
12 with any agency of the United States or with a licensee of such agency, or
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15 bination of vehicles, article, machine or other equipment while being used
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17 rated city in the construction, maintenance or repair of public highways and
18 at the immediate location or site of such construction, maintenance or re-
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20 “(4) The maximum weight limitations do not apply to vehicles while being
21 used on the roads of a road authority by mass transit districts for the pur-
22 poses authorized under ORS 267.010 to 267.394, provided the weight of the
23 vehicles is approved by the road authority for the roads.

24 “(5) Subject to the maximum weight limitations under Tables I and III
25 of ORS 818.010, any vehicle with a single rear axle specially equipped with
26 a self-compactor and used exclusively for garbage or refuse operations may
27 have a loaded weight upon a single axle of not more than 22,000 pounds when
28 laden with garbage or refuse. When unladen or when operating on any
29 highway that is part of the federal interstate highway system such vehicles
30 shall comply with the weight limitations under Table II of ORS 818.010.

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2 the weight limitations are modified by a road authority under ORS 810.060.
3 The exemption under this subsection is subject to the limitations imposed
4 by the road authority exercising the powers granted under ORS 810.060.

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6 permit issued under ORS 818.200 are subject to the terms of the permit. It
7 shall be a defense to any charge of violation of ORS 818.020 if the person so
8 charged produces a variance permit issued under ORS 818.200 authorizing the
9 operation of the vehicle or combination of vehicles issued prior to and valid
10 at the time of the offense.

11 “(8)(a) Notwithstanding Table III of ORS 818.010, two consecutive sets of
12 tandem axles may have a loaded weight of 34,000 pounds each when operat-
13 ing on interstate highways with a permit and on other highways without a
14 permit, providing the distance between the first and last axles of the two sets
15 of tandem axles is at least 30 feet but less than 36 feet.

16 “(b) Notwithstanding Table III of ORS 818.010, two consecutive sets of
17 tandem axles may have a loaded weight of 34,000 pounds each when operat-
18 ing on any highway if the overall distance between the first and the last
19 axles of the sets of tandem axles is 36 feet or more.

20 “(9) Notwithstanding Table III of ORS 818.010, a group of four axles
21 consisting of a set of tandem axles and two axles spaced nine feet or more
22 apart may have a loaded weight of more than 65,500 pounds and up to 70,000
23 pounds when operating on interstate highways with a permit and on other
24 highways without a permit, providing the distance between the first and last
25 axles of the group is 35 feet or more.

26 “(10) The maximum weight limitations do not apply to a vehicle equipped
27 with a fully functional idle reduction system designed to reduce fuel use and
28 emissions from engine idling. The vehicle may exceed the weight limitations
29 established under ORS 818.010 by not more than 550 pounds.

30 “(11) The maximum weight limitations do not apply to a vehicle that uses

1 natural gas as its fuel source or a vehicle powered primarily by means of an
2 electric battery. The vehicle may exceed the weight limitations established
3 under ORS 818.010 by not more than 2,000 pounds.

4 “[(12) A vehicle carrying fluid milk products may have a loaded weight of
5 not more than 129,000 pounds. This subsection applies to vehicles:]

6 “[(a) That transport fluid milk products to or from a farm, milk plant, re-
7 ceiving station or transfer station;]

8 “[(b) That have a double trailer length of 85 feet or less;]

9 “[(c) That do not exceed the limits on the maximum allowable weight pre-
10 scribed in ORS 818.010; and]

11 “[(d) That travel on the pilot project routes prescribed by the department
12 by rule under section 5 of this 2025 Act.]

13 **“SECTION 3. The amendments to ORS 818.030 by section 2 of this**
14 **2025 Act become operative on January 2, 2031.**

15 **“SECTION 4. Section 5 of this 2025 Act is added to and made a part**
16 **of the Oregon Vehicle Code.**

17 **“SECTION 5. (1) The Department of Transportation shall establish**
18 **a five-year pilot program designed to test the allowance of commercial**
19 **motor vehicles weighing not more than 129,000 pounds that transport**
20 **fluid milk products on a limited number of highways in this state. The**
21 **department shall adopt rules specifying pilot project routes on high-**
22 **ways in this state where the department may issue permits for in-**
23 **creased motor vehicle weights as permitted under ORS 818.030 (12). In**
24 **selecting the routes, the department shall prioritize routes that:**

25 **“(a) Connect to bordering states.**

26 **“(b) Connect to farms, milk plants, receiving stations or transfer**
27 **stations for fluid milk products.**

28 **“(2) The department shall study the impact the pilot program and**
29 **allowance of motor vehicles weighing not more than 129,000 pounds**
30 **have on the highways, bridges and pavement conditions of routes in-**

1 **cluded in the pilot program. The findings must be included in the re-**
2 **ports required under section 6 of this 2025 Act.**

3 **“(3) The department shall explore the potential expansion of the**
4 **pilot program to include:**

5 **“(a) Additional routes throughout the state, including by providing**
6 **recommendations in the reports required under section 6 of this 2025**
7 **Act.**

8 **“(b) Additional commodities that operate with specific axle config-**
9 **urations.**

10 **“(4) The department shall establish by rule safety and operational**
11 **guidelines for the pilot program.**

12 **“SECTION 6. (1) No later than September 15 of each even-numbered**
13 **year, the Department of Transportation shall submit to the Joint**
14 **Committee on Transportation a report on the motor vehicle weight**
15 **exemption provided under ORS 818.030 (12) and section 5 of this 2025**
16 **Act for motor vehicles weighing not more than 129,000 pounds and**
17 **transporting fluid milk products.**

18 **“(2) The report must provide information on the department’s**
19 **findings regarding the impact those vehicles have on the highways,**
20 **bridges and pavement conditions along the routes specified in the ex-**
21 **emption as required under section 5 of this 2025 Act. The department**
22 **shall submit the report in the manner provided by ORS 192.245, and**
23 **may include recommendations for legislation.**

24 **“SECTION 7. Sections 5 and 6 of this 2025 Act are repealed on Jan-**
25 **uary 2, 2031.”.**

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